NEBRASKA
WEATHER & CROPS

For Week Ending July 18, 1999

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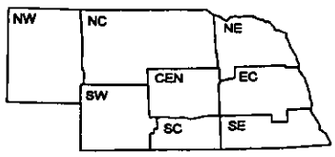

Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
Institute of Agriculture
and Natural Resources--UN-L

WEATHER

Temperatures across the entire State averaged near normals within one to two degrees for the week. Precipitation occurred across the State with amounts ranging from traces in the North Central area to over two and three-fourths inches in the Northwest area.

GENERAL

Hot, dry weather last week allowed rapid progress of wheat harvest but proved stressful for some dryland crops, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Cultivating and spraying were active as weed control measures. Irrigation systems were pumping water to fields dried by last week's weather. Reports indicate that some crops have shallow root systems which leaves them susceptible to heat and dry weather. Field activities included cultivating sorghum and soybeans, working with irrigation equipment, applying herbicide to crops, and moving grain

CROPS

Corn conditions rated 1% very poor, 4% poor, 15% fair, 56% good, 24% excellent. Dryland corn rated 82% in good or excellent conditions and irrigated corn rated 79%. Corn had silked on 22% of the crop, behind the 61% last year and 35% average.

Soybean conditions were rated 1% very poor, 3% poor, 20% fair, 59% good, and 17% excellent Blooming was 44% complete and compares with last year at 61% and average at 43% Weed control activities were common where needed.

Sorghum condition rated 1% poor, 19% fair, 70% good, 10% excellent The crop was headed on 5% of the acreage, ahead of last year at 1% and average at 3%.

Winter wheat was rated 93% ripe, above the 87% last year and the 81% average Wheat harvest made good progress last week with 72% combined. This compares with 68% last year and 58% average. Harvest was slowed where rain fell.

Dry bean condition rated 2% poor, 20% fair, 72% good, and 6% excellent. Twenty-four percent of the crop was blooming as of Sunday, ahead of last year's 12% but the same as average at 24%.

Oats harvest was 34% complete, ahead of both last year and average. Oats condition rated 2% poor, 11% fair, 67% good, and 20% excellent.

Alfalfa condition rated 1% very poor, 2% poor, 16% fair, 67% good, and 14% excellent. Alfalfa second cutting rated 73%, well above last year and average Hot dry weather last week allowed many producers to bale the hay without rain damage. Wild hay conditions were rated at 2% poor, 12% fair, 71% good, and 15% excellent.

CROPS (Cont.)

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range condition rated 3% poor, 18% fair, 64% good, 15% excellent. Some pastures were stressed last week due to weather conditions.

CROP PROGRESS AS OF JULY 18, 1999	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER-AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Wheat Ripe	87	77	98	97	98	100	100	100	93	51	87	81
% Wheat Harvested	51	68	52	62	91	98	94	100	72	36	68	58
% Soybeans Blooming	n/a	14	39	33	46	21	50	55	44	24	61	43
% Soybeans Setting Pods	0	0	5	2	5	1	3	5	4	1	5	5
% Corn Silked	1	4	10	6	27	10	36	48	22	3	61	35
% Sorghum Headed	n/a	0	0	0	11	54	1	2	5	3	1	3
% Dry Beans Blooming	31	5	6	6	n/a	15	n/a	n/a	24	3	12	24
% Alfafa Second Cutting	29	77	65	69	78	79	98	100	73	47	60	58
% Oats Harvested	3	44	24	30	35	64	100	86	34	11	24	30
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF JULY 16, 1999												
Days suitable	6 1	6 6	6 2	6 5	6 3	6 7	6 5	7 0	6 5	6.0	6 4	
Topsoil moisture - Very Short	0	3	1	1	0	2	0	1	1	0	3	
(Percent) - Short	23	32	35	35	18	36	44	14	28	11	25	
- Adequate	77	65	63	63	77	62	56	85	70	85	68	
- Surplus	0	0	1	1	5	0	0	0	1	4	4	
Subsoil moisture - Very Short	0	2	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	3	
(Percent) - Short	16	11	17	9	8	15	19	2	12	4	17	
- Adequate	84	87	80	88	88	83	81	93	85	93	77	
- Surplus	0	0	2	3	4	0	0	5	2	3	3	

n/a = not available.

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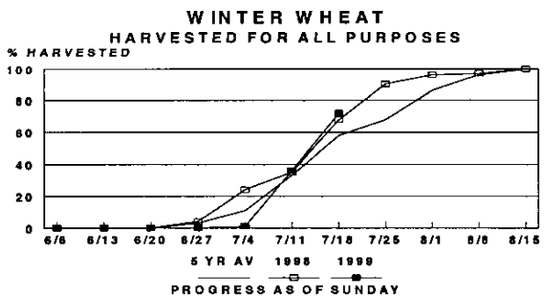

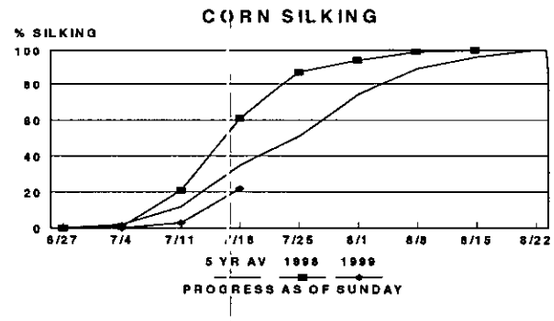

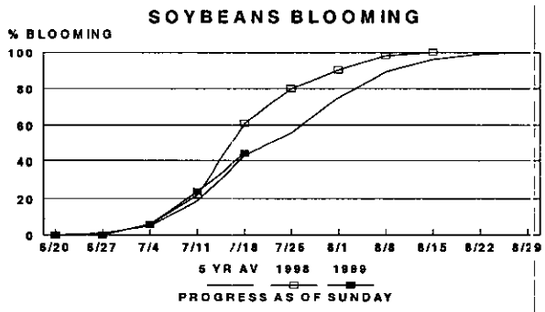

PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - JULY 17, 1999

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	60	63	1 08	83	.73	28	.69	51
Total since April 1	10 88	13 13	17 23	17 25	19 29	10 92	16 35	17 00
Normal since April 1	9 13	10 73	12 18	11.82	12.92	10 19	11 62	12 95
Total as % of normal	119%	122%	141%	146%	149%	107%	141%	131%

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, JULY 17, 1999

	Station	Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches	Last Week	Current	Normal
		Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	100	53	74	---	05	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	102	52	75	+1	34	148	1229	1257
	Sidney	100	52	75	---	20	149	1138	1289
NC	Valentine	103	51	73	-2	09	---	---	---
	Arthur	---	---	---	---	---	150	1190	1357
	O'Neill	---	---	---	---	---	154	1260	1459
NE	Norfolk	92	51	74	-2	69	---	---	---
	Sioux City	94	55	75	-1	.20	---	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	157	1339	1497
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	154	1271	1498
	West Point	---	---	---	---	---	160	1368	1588
CEN	Grand Island	96	51	75	-2	80	163	1397	1519
	Ord	93	48	74	---	07	155	1326	1506
	Kearney	---	---	---	---	---	162	1372	1501
EC	Lincoln	94	53	76	-2	39	173	1510	1669
	Omaha	90	55	75	-1	73	---	---	---
	Central City	---	---	---	---	---	162	1389	1544
	Mead	---	---	---	---	---	164	1455	1645
SW	Imperial	100	52	75	---	02	---	---	---
	North Platte	100	44	73	-1	01	149	1316	1409
	Curtis	---	---	---	---	---	154	1344	1434
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	162	1395	1489
	Red Cloud	---	---	---	---	---	176	1600	1538
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	165	1449	1669
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	159	1370	1534

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity The formula used to calculate GDD is Max temp + min temp divided by 2 minus 50 = GDD For example, if the average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 15

Growing Degree Day data is furnished by the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln